

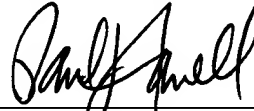
**REMARKS**

Claims 1 and 3-20 are pending in the application. It is greatfully acknowledged, that Claims 1, 3-12, 15, 16, 19 and 20 have been allowed. The Examiner has rejected Claims 13, 14, 17 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Wiese (U.S. Patent 6,493,666).

Please cancel claims 13, 14, 17 and 18, without prejudice.

Accordingly, all of the claims pending in the Application, namely, Claims 1, 3-12, 15, 16, 19 and 20, are believed to be in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference or personal interview would facilitate resolution of any remaining matters, the Examiner may contact Applicants' attorney at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,



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